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Paula Drouin
Auburn
LD975

Testimony of Paula Drouin in Opposition of LD 975 An Act to Repeal Laws Allowing Abortion and to Criminalize Abortion

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn and honorable members of the Judiciary Committee. My name is Paula Drouin, resident of Auburn, Androscoggin County. Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to oppose LD 975: An Act to Repeal Laws Allowing Abortion and to Criminalize Abortion.

Access to safe abortion is a component of comprehensive health care; it is not a criminal act.

Make no mistake, criminalizing abortions will not stop them, it will just force people to turn to unsafe methods. 68,000 women die of unsafe abortion annually, making it one of the leading causes of maternal mortality (13%)¹.

1 in 4 women will get an abortion by age 45². Reasons include: for the sake of the mother's health; where a pregnancy is the result of a crime such as rape, incest, or child abuse; where the child would have poor quality of life such as serious genetic problems; and social reasons, including poverty³. Sometimes the decision is simple, and sometimes it is complicated. Either way, it is a personal decision that every individual should have the right to make for themselves.

I urge you to vote "ought not to pass".

Please uphold healthcare. Please trust and protect women.

¹ [Unsafe Abortion: Unnecessary Maternal Mortality](#)

² [Planned Parenthood Annual Report](#)

³ [Reasons for abortion](#) - BBC